

REMARKS*1. Status of claims*

After entry of the above amendment, claims 99-139 and 141-194 are pending.

2. Support for amendment

Claim 183 is amended to correct its dependency from claim 78, previously cancelled, to claim 182, currently pending. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

2. Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claim 140 is provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for statutory or "same invention" double patenting over claim 5 of copending U.S. Ser. No. 09/664,993. By the above amendment, claim 140 has been cancelled, and Applicants submit the basis for this rejection has been removed.

3. Final remarks

Applicants welcome the Examiner's statement, at paragraph 4 of the Detailed Action, that claims 99-139 and 141-194, as amended, are allowable. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned patent agent at (713) 934-4065 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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